PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 6530 \$278-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

James F. HEMERICK et al.

) Group Art Unit: 3731

Application No.: 09/843,941

Examiner: Michael H. THALER

Filed: April 30, 2001

For: ENDOSCOPIC STENT DELIVERY

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DEC 1 8 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

In reply to the Office Action dated September 17, 2003, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflecting in the listing of claims in this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings are in this paper.

Remarks follow the Amendment section of this paper.

Attachments including two Formal Replacement Sheets containing Figs. 1, 3, and 3a, and one Annotated Sheet Showing Changes to Fig. 1, are being filed with this paper.

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